

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1731

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Muskogee, Oklahoma, as the Jack C. Montgomery Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2005

Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Muskogee, Oklahoma, as the Jack C. Montgomery Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) Jack C. Montgomery was awarded the
6 Medal of Honor, the highest honor for valor awarded
7 to members of the Armed Forces, for his actions
8 near Padiglione, Italy, on February 22, 1944, result-

1 ing in 11 enemy dead and the taking of 32 pris-
2 oners.

3 (2) Jack Montgomery was proud to be of Cher-
4 okee Indian ancestry.

5 (3) Jack Montgomery was born at Long, Okla-
6 homa, in Sequoyah County before the Great Depres-
7 sion and enlisted in the 45th Division Thunderbirds
8 of the Oklahoma National Guard while attending
9 Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

10 (4) In addition to being awarded the Medal of
11 Honor during his service in World War II, Jack
12 Montgomery was awarded the Silver Star, the
13 Bronze Star, the Purple Heart with Cluster (wound-
14 ed more than once), and many other military honors.

15 (5) Jack Montgomery was awarded the Medal
16 of Honor personally by President Franklin D. Roo-
17 sevelt.

18 (6) On his release from the Army after World
19 War II, Jack Montgomery began a career with the
20 Veterans' Administration in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

21 (7) When the Korean War began and the 45th
22 Division was activated for service, Jack Montgomery
23 attempted to rejoin the Armed Forces for service in
24 Korea.

1 (8) On learning that recipients of the Medal of
 2 Honor cannot return to active duty and serve in
 3 combat, Jack Montgomery volunteered to serve as
 4 an instructor at Fort Benning, Georgia.

5 (9) After his discharge from service in the
 6 Armed Forces in March 1953, Jack Montgomery re-
 7 turned to service with the Veterans' Administration
 8 in the State of Oklahoma.

9 (10) After retiring from the Veterans' Adminis-
 10 tration, Jack Montgomery volunteered at the De-
 11 partment of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in
 12 Muskogee, Oklahoma, where he worked more than
 13 750 hours driving a shuttle to transport veterans
 14 from the parking lot to the hospital

15 (11) Jack Montgomery died on June 11, 2002,
 16 at age 84.

17 **SEC. 2. JACK C. MONTGOMERY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
 18 **AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Department of Veterans Af-
 20 fairs medical center in Muskogee, Oklahoma, shall after
 21 the date of the enactment of this Act be known and des-
 22 ignated as the “Jack C. Montgomery Department of Vet-
 23 erans Affairs Medical Center”.

24 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-
 25 tion, map, document, record, or other paper of the United

- 1 States to the medical center referred to in subsection (a)
- 2 shall be considered to be a reference to the Jack C. Mont-
- 3 gomery Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

